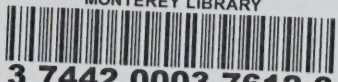


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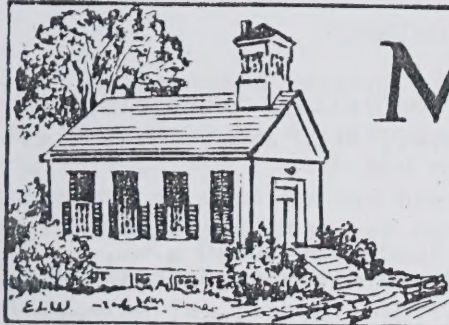


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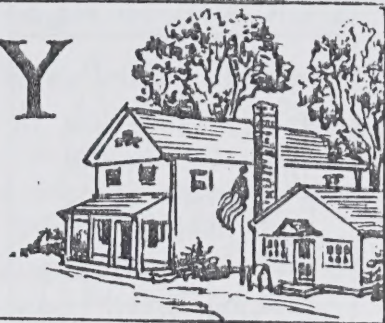








# MONTEREY NEWS



OUR TOWN

Jan, 1974

## Reporting Fires

The Monterey Fire Department wishes to clear up misconceptions regarding its new system of fire notification. People have been complaining that they don't like the idea of calling Great Barrington to report fires in Monterey. That is not the idea. The number of the Monterey Fire Department is the same: 528-1932. When you dial that number a receiver rings in the Fire Chief's office in his home and in the Fire Station in Great Barrington. If the Monterey Fire Chief is not near his telephone, the receiver in Great Barrington is manned 24 hours a day. Whoever answers there will immediately activate the radios carried by all Monterey firemen. Through each fireman's radio comes an alert signal followed

all specifics of the fire in question. Firemen here can then report to the Monterey station or go directly to the fire, depending upon instructions. The radio alert system is expected to cut response time to fires in half.

## Snow Budget

Dick Tryon reports that during the last ice storm we went over the halfway mark on our snow budget. One can hope, in that case, that winter is now half over.

## Re zoning Committee Solicited

The Monterey Planning Board is planning to do some rezoning by way of a volunteer committee which will meet weekly for the next few weeks, starting Thursday, January 25th. Interested parties are invited to volunteer for the project. Call Jed Lipsky, 528-0762. Decisions made will be based to a large extent on the Master Plan executed a few years ago for the Town of Monterey.

## Nature's Classroom

For those who have wondered what is meant by the modest sign saying "Nature's Classroom" at the fork of Route 23 and Sandisfield Road, here is an answer. The sign refers to an outdoor program for schoolchildren, which in Monterey is based at New England Keswick. It is run by a private non-profit organization which offers a five-day live-in experience to teachers and their pupils as a way of improving the classroom dynamic. The theory, as expressed by director John Santos, is this: By participating in the kind of direct experience offered by Nature's Classroom kids see that they need to master basic skills such as math and reading to be able to do what is necessary and interesting in their lives.

It seems to work. The rate of failure in the program (failure meaning that everybody goes home early and unsatisfied) is .5 to .7%. The Nature's Classroom staff, a crew of aspiring young educators with degrees in a variety of natural sciences, undergoes a 10-day to 2-week training period before beginning work. In addition to the classroom teacher, several parents volunteer to help out in the dorms and in the academic program. Activities can range from animal dissection to building pulleys, from mapping and astronomy to making dyes or medicines from plants. There are non-competitive games scheduled during breaks and dancing or singing around a campfire at night.

The program has been in existence for six years and now has four facilities in three states, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts. So far, about 18,000 children have ropped through Nature's Classroom. The cost is \$50 per child. Scholarships may be arranged through schools involved. Any school, public or private, is eligible. Although not God-affiliated, the program has so far successfully housed itself in church-owned facilities. Of the situation in Monterey, Santos says that New England Keswick considers the goals of Nature's Classroom to be harmonious with its own pursuit of a Christian Mission. Keswick provided adequate housing and facilities in return for basic maintenance costs, and both groups call it even.

If you follow the signs to Nature's Classroom you are likely to encounter a rollicking group of youngsters clustering on Cronk Road and shepherded by several hardy-looking young teachers. One strums a guitar while another points white is noteworthy in the Berkshire woods. There is an air of unbridled enthusiasm. When asked how things went during deer week, Santos said, "We told the kids to keep the volume up, and we didn't lose a one." In these parts, that alone is a record to be proud of.

(Apologies to everyone! Mimeograph trouble.)





#### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Masses Schedule: Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield, Saturday 5:30 p.m. Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

#### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Notes Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m., during the winter months in the social room. . . . Kindergarten class at 10:30 a.m. . . . Funerals and memorial services: Ida Hart, January 11, Gertrude Gould, January 14. Evelyn Chamberlain also died on January 11. A memorial service will be held at Gould Farm some time in the near future.

Annual Meeting The annual meeting of the congregation is being held on Sunday, January 21. It begins with the morning worship. After a brief intermission following the worship the meeting will resume. Reports will be received. The budget will be acted upon and the election of officers will be held. Following the business meeting there will be a covered-dish luncheon.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity A special service in the Berkshires will take place on Tuesday, January 23, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Pittsfield. Bishop McGuire of the Springfield Roman Catholic diocese will be the speaker. We expect a number of people from Monterey to attend.

#### QUALITY OF LIFE HERE AND ABROAD

After an extensive trip through France and Italy, where we have spoken with many people and observed their life-styles, my wife and I were impressed by the fact that America has inspired Europeans to practice a greater degree of democratization in blurring class distinctions. We also realized that we are outdoing them in technology and affluence. They, however, in spite of having their share of economical and political problems, are outdoing us in taking enough extra time out to lead full and enjoyable lives.

In America, with its love for powerful cars (theirs are of the four-cylinder variety) and ease-creating gadgetry, our high standard of living has increasingly deteriorated into a high standard of waste. Obviously these dissimilar life-styles are the result of two totally different approaches to daily life. It is comfort and status versus self-sufficiency and well-used leisure.

Looking at both concepts, clearly the European standard of living is making for a higher quality of life than ours.

For instance, in France, the country of the heart, the stomach and the eye, between noon and 2:00 p.m. the world stops for most French people while they enjoy a leisurely and delicious meal. And in colorful and lively Italy there is no rushing at any time. It is always "uno momento!" Traditions and the amount of man-made and natural beauty which surround these people daily make for a sense of continuity that brings "The Now" into an altogether different perspective. It is a "Now" in which one can easily afford to "lose" time in order to find time to live. This attitude carries over into the whole fabric of family life. There is such an unhurried way of life -- much less of the "don't-bother-me" attitude of parents toward their children than I have witnessed here. There is also a greater show of patience and affection by parents, with an active exchange of ideas.

Having been reminded in Europe time and again that the past is the basis for the present, I wonder if we can't still learn something very important from our common ancestors. I am speaking of the wisdom of enjoyment of life (joie de vivre) which through centuries has been passed on to all our neighbors across the sea.

If we would acquire the good sense and will to slow down our over-active and fast-paced lives, we would find the patience and insight to regenerate our injured humanness.

A fitting description of our restlessness and confusion is a stanza from the musical "The Western Star": "We don't know where we're going but we're on our way." And Gyorgy Kepes in "The Arts of Environment" puts it this way: "We need more time not to escape into beauty, man-made or natural, but to go there to restore our shattered selves into whole ones.... Then in a meaningful life high goals will make us immune to boredom."

(continued on back page)



## LOOKING BACKWARD AND FORWARD AT THE SAME TIME

A shortened version of the Minister's Report to the Monterey United Church)

For several years my reports have sought to reflect the shape of the revolution sweeping through the Church and movements in the spiritual sphere. Who could miss seeing the years of decline and hearing the cries of doomsayers? The amazing thing to observe now is the stronger note of hope and the indications of new directions.

Recent times have deflated shallow enthusiasms and shattered simple remedies. Plan after plan for renewal has fallen into the ash can. Glib and superficial answers are being stripped away.

I find increasing confidence in suggesting two directions in which those who are concerned with faith may invest their energies. A sifting has gone on which is clarifying the difference between surface answers and those which lie nearer the root.

The first direction that is likely to reward our energies is a deeper movement into the "withinness" of our lives. A few years ago we were immersed in our probes into outer space. We are by no means done with that thrust, but it is becoming clearer that the next major step forward for the human family lies in the exploration of "inner space." Generally, a mood of being more willing to invest energy in the "within" is increasing. Today's literature and other media are spending more time on the inward search. Maybe the world and its people are beginning to lose some of their enchantment with external answers. True, much of the current interest in the psychic and spiritual is not very profound and not very well attuned to the religious viewpoint. Yet there is evidence of a human hungering that is not to be denied. This hungering is creating a climate that the Church is well-suited to enter. Perhaps the religious community above all others has the tradition and experience to enter this arena.

What keeps us from jumping in with both feet? Simply this, we cannot do it by copying the past. We are positioned similarly to the time the religious community had to reorient itself to the idea that the earth was not the center of the universe, or to the time in which Darwin published "The Origin of the Species." Many supposed these new understandings were forcing a choice between religion and science. That turned out not to be the issue at all. It did require the ancient truths of religion to be restated so as to include these further discoveries about the nature of the earth and its inhabitants. When this was done faith experienced a new rebirth of power.

Something of that order is what needed at this time. I feel the stage is set, the conditions are right. Our faith has real work to do. It needs to interact with the new understandings of personality that are emerging. Imagination, creativeness and boldness are called for. The times call for a daring venture into the nature of the personal -- the spiritual. We have an enormous wealth from our heritage to give stability to the enterprise. One ingredient which we cannot see clearly is needed before the "leap" occurs. We await some "inspired" way of combining the ancient and the new. Is there any more important task awaiting our tired and fearful age? I hope you can feel the excitement of this amazing juncture at which we stand. Are you willing to lean into the future, becoming a part of this venture, seeking the courage and understanding for this time of rare opportunity?

A second direction commending itself to our attention lies not so much in our exploration of the within as in our "outreach" to those around us. This is more deeply related to the first direction than we may at first believe. Any real movement into the within will touch the springs of love and affection. As the inner journey deepens, it will release a more creative <sup>attitude</sup> toward the self. Without fail this must begin to find expression in the persons and situations around oneself.

The impulse to "reach out with love" is deeply rooted in the spiritual dimension. To be sure, religious traditions also show elements of exclusivism. When this appears it is evidence of being motivated largely by fear. The flowering periods of religion usually place the emphasis on "reaching out with love." A reflowering of faith in our time will most surely involve a strong movement to bind people together in a sense of mutuality and common destiny. Religious renewal in our day already is showing evidence that it will be powered more by inclusive forces than exclusive ones. Should not our energies be aimed toward all that unites?

May we have the faith, imagination and courage to reach deeply within. Yet that same quality of faith, imagination and courage is needed to reach out in love to those around us. We have two legs. We must use both of them if we are to go forward.

Virgil V. Brallier, Minister  
Monterey United Church of Christ



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Photography Upcoming soon in the Camera Club will be the study of the developing of slides. Anyone interested in volunteering their help or photographic knowledge with the club is urged to call Kevin Bradley at 528-0782.

Great Barrington Camera Club On January 9 the Camera Club held their meeting at the VFW Hall in Great Barrington. Experimental and creative photography was shown by Herbert Mueller, Donald Victor, Frank Whitney and Clara Nisbet. Youth members in the club from Monterey are: Shawn Ryder,

Kevin Bradley and Stephen Brown.

#### BOY SCOUTS

Cub Scouts The Cub Scouts are presently working on their Wolf Badge. They are doing many different and interesting projects in order to achieve this badge.

#### GIRL SCOUTS

Brownies On December 7 the Brownies of Troop #237 joined other youth groups from Monterey and New Marlborough for a Christmas Workshop held at the American Legion Hall in Southfield. Each group leader had a project to make and the children went from table to table making as many Christmas decorations as time would permit. The Brownie project was a birch log centerpiece.

The last two meetings in December had to be cancelled due to illness and bad weather, but the Brownies managed to complete their annual project of dressing up the window boxes at the Post Office.

The first meeting of the new year was held January 4 and was an organizational one. The girls were asked to draw pictures of things they wanted to do in the coming months. Camping and seeing a rainbow were tops on their lists, so if any townspeople see a rainbow on a Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., call them!

Juniors and Cadettes Due to the Christmas vacation, the Girl Scouts have not met in a long time. However, they are still working on their First Aid badge.

#### YOUTH GROUP

In November the Youth Group elected officers and established different committees. The results of these elections were: Chairman - Jim Gauthier; Co-Chairman - Sherri Durkholder; Secretary - Hannah Pedersen; Treasurer - Todd Clark. Several committees were also formed in November. On the Refreshment Committee are Jim Gauthier and Connie Amstead. The members in charge of activities are Todd Clark and Donald Whitbeck. During the Christmas vacation the group recessed for two weeks, but they have begun their Sunday evening meetings once again. On Sunday, January 14, they held a pizza supper in order to plan for the upcoming year. Among some expected events are roller skating and swimming parties.

#### SHEFFIELD YOUTH HOCKEY

The hockey team, on January 8, suffered a depressing loss to Salisbury. The score was 9 - 1. Douglas Brown and Kirven Blount both played. However, the team does look forward to having a successful season.

#### SKIING

A cross-country program is now underway at New Marlborough Central School. Butternut Ski Touring is sponsoring this program on Wednesday afternoons. It began on January 10 and it will continue for six weeks.

The downhill skiing program at Catamount Ski Area is also in progress this winter. It is run by the New Marlborough PTA. The program is held every Friday after school. This Catamount ski program will run eight weeks.

Kevin Bradley  
Youth Editor



## QUALITY OF LIFE HERE AND ABROAD (continued)

We have now returned to the Berkshires with a renewed sense of urgency to preserve this unique area which since Hawthorne's time has been a haven for creative spirits and where the world of the arts and commerce are living in a happy and well-balanced co-existence.

In short, in the Berkshires we still have the necessary means to further our inner resources, enabling us to lead meaningful and enjoyable lives. We must not allow over-commercialization or any kind of exploitation to destroy that.

Fred Lancome  
Monterey

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the past month we have gratefully received contributions from the following: Peter Amidon, Mr/Mrs Phillip Amidon, Mr/Mrs Peter Anderson, Gerald Bauman, Mr/Mrs Stanley Brallier, Mr/Mrs Arthur Bronstein, Dr. Edward B. Brown, Dr/Mrs Edward S. Brown, Mr/Mrs Joseph Burkholder, Dr/Mrs Howard Burns, Claudette Callahan, Mr/Mrs John Camp, Eugene Carroll, Sheila Chefetz, Kathryn Clark, Dr/Mrs Arnold Cohen, Drs. Hugo & Alice de Martino, Mr/Mrs Paul Edelman, Mr/Mrs Sheldon Fenn, Samuel Friedman, Daniel Gildesgame, Dr/Mrs Warren Goodman, Mr/Mrs Richard Grassis, Mr/Mrs Morton Goodman, Edward Green, Dr/Mrs Lloyd Hall, Jr., Robert Hardisty, Mr/Mrs Stewart Hegleman, H. B. Hinchcliff, Mr/Mrs Marc Holzer, Rev. Peter Ives, Kenneth Kahn, Judith Kales, Donna Kanapes, Mr/Mrs Claude Kimberley, George Kisselbrock, John Lambert, Elizabeth Lippert, Mr/Mrs John Miller, Stephanie Newman, Mr/Mrs Denis O'Connor, Judith Oplinger, Mr/Mrs Kennedy Parker, Burton Paustian, Elizabeth Peterson, Mr/Mrs Tony Reed, Richard Roth, Mary Seitz, Albert Shepard, Hugh Shulock, Arthur Somers, Evalyn Stafford, Annette Swanson & Louise Buonaguro, Ann Thurston, Mr/Mrs Jack Tytell, Mr/Mrs Leonard Weber, Mr/Mrs Sydney Weinstein, Fred Whipple, Mr/Mrs Peter Wolf, Hildegard Wolff, Joseph Wondrasch.

## ADVERTISEMENT

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*****
*      HELP WANTED: The Town of Monterey is accepting      *
*      applications for the position of Highway Super-      *
*      intendent. All inquiries should be addressed to      *
*      the Monterey Board of Selectmen by February 1st.      *
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